

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the non-final Office Action of July 11, 2003. Reexamination, reconsideration, and allowance of the application and all presently pending claims are respectfully requested.

Upon entry of this Fourth Response, claims 1-3, 5-19, 23, 24, 28, 30, 31, and 36-47 remain pending in this application and have been allowed. Claims 20-22, 25-27, and 29 are canceled herein without prejudice or disclaimer. It is believed that the foregoing amendments add no new matter to the present application and place the present application in a condition for allowance.

The cancellation of claims 20-22, 25-27, and 29 serves to reduce the number of disputed issues and to facilitate early allowance and issuance of other claims in the present application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of canceled claims 20-22, 25-27, and 29 in a continuing application, if Applicants so choose, and do not intend to dedicate any of the canceled subject matter to the public.

Applicants respectfully request that all outstanding rejections be withdrawn and that this application and all presently pending claims be allowed to issue. If the Examiner has any questions or comments regarding Applicants' response, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone Applicants' undersigned counsel.

Respectfully submitted ,

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